

Who qualifies?

To qualify for the Academic Common Market, a student must be a resident of Tennessee and have a valid Tennessee Driver's license. Also, the student must be admitted unconditionally into an out-of-state degree program at an SREB state institution that is listed in the Academic Program Inventory (API).

Which states participate in SREB?

Alabama	Georgia	Mississippi	North Carolina
Arkansas	Kentucky	Tennessee	Texas
Delaware	Louisiana	Oklahoma	Virginia
Florida	Maryland	South Carolina	West Virginia

How do I know if the program I want to study is offered at a public university in my state?

Click Here for a list of programs.

What is the application process?

You will need to submit three items to our office. These items are:

1. A copy of your TN Driver's License
2. An UNCONDITIONAL letter of acceptance into your desired program (a general letter of acceptance to the university is not acceptable)
3. A completed ACM application

To print out an ACM application, go to:

[http://www.state.tn.us/thec/2004web/division_pages/academic_pages/acm/acm_pdf/resce
rt.pdf](http://www.state.tn.us/thec/2004web/division_pages/academic_pages/acm/acm_pdf/resce
rt.pdf)

How long does it take to process my application?

Once you have mailed or emailed (do not fax!) all of the required documents to our agency, our certification process will take 3-5 working days.

How are programs added to the ACM inventory?

If you are a Tennessee resident and the program of study you seek is not available currently in Tennessee and is not among the eligible programs on the current Tennessee Academic Program Inventory (API), you may ask that the program be added to the inventory. The steps to add this program are:

1. Email or a request to the Tennessee state coordinator at: william.arnold@state.tn.us
2. Include the link that details the curriculum for the program of study
3. The curriculum will be reviewed by external reviewers at the Tennessee Board of Regents and the University of Tennessee to make certain 51% or more of the program is not currently offered in Tennessee.
4. If a similar program is not available in Tennessee, the State Coordinator will ask that the program be added to the ACM inventory.
5. The university whose program you have requested can either add the program to the inventory or reject the request.
6. You will be notified once the request has been reviewed and a decision made from the university

If I were an Academic Common Market participant who decided to change my major to a program that is available in my home state, would I have to pay back the money that I saved in the years that I received ACM benefits?

Most ACM institutions will not require you to pay back tuition for the years that you received ACM benefits. However, if you change your major during a semester, the institution may charge you the out-of-state tuition rate for that semester

If I change my major to a different program that is not available in my home state, can I still pay reduced tuition through the Academic Common Market?

If you change your major to a different program that qualifies to be included in the Academic Common Market, you need to be recertified by your state coordinator.

Is there a deadline for submitting my ACM information to THEC?

No, our agency does not have a deadline for application submission, however a number of the institutions have internal deadlines that must be followed. We suggest you contact your institution of choice to determine if there is an internal ACM deadline

Is it necessary for me to reapply each year for ACM?

No, certification is a one-time-only procedure provided that the student's academic major, residency classification, full-time status, and good academic standing remain unchanged. The following questions address exceptional circumstances related to this particular question

Are there restrictions of the ACM?

Yes, students must remain enrolled full-time. Part-time students do not qualify for ACM tuition waivers. Students are also expected to maintain good academic standing. If a student is placed on academic probation or dismissed, it is the discretion of the institution to reinstate ACM access. Also, certain institutions have their own restrictions. This information is noted on the list of approved

programs. The ACM institutional list does not include private institutions.

Further restrictions include:

- The University of Alabama is **not** accepting ACM applications for the 2006-07 academic year.
- Auburn University (AL) limits ACM access to undergraduate programs. Only 25 new ACM participants are accepted each year; and students must be at the junior or senior level to participate in the ACM. Auburn selects applicants on a competitive basis. The deadline is March 15.
- Programs offered by the Georgia Institute of Technology are limited to the programs that are currently listed in the ACM inventory.
- The University of Georgia grants ACM access once students receive formal acceptance into the program of study.
- The state of South Carolina limits the eligibility of its residents participating in the Academic Common Market program to those enrolled on a full-time basis. The full-time determination will be based on the hosting institution's definition of full-time enrollment.
- Students at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University may enroll in the engineering programs with ACM benefit only after the general courses in engineering have been completed.

If you have further questions, please refer them to:
william.arnold@state.tn.us